

§ 131.320

§ 131.320 Safety orientation for offshore workers.

(a) Before a vessel gets under way on a voyage, the master shall ensure that suitable public announcements are made informing each offshore worker of—

(1) In general terms, emergency and evacuation procedures;

(2) Locations of emergency exits and of embarkation areas for survival craft;

(3) Locations of stowage of lifejackets and immersion suits;

(4) With demonstration, proper method or methods of donning and adjusting lifejackets and immersion suits of the type or types carried on the vessel;

(5) Locations of the instruction placards for lifejackets and other lifesaving devices;

(6) Explanation that each offshore worker shall don an immersion suit and a lifejacket when the master determines that hazardous conditions do or might exist but that offshore workers may don lifejackets whenever they feel it necessary;

(7) Which hazardous conditions might require the donning of lifejackets and immersion suits;

(8) Types and locations of any other lifesaving device carried on the vessel;

(9) Locations and contents of the "Emergency Instructions" required by § 131.330;

(10) Survival craft to which assigned;

(11) Any hazardous materials on the vessel; and

(12) Any conditions or circumstances that constitute a risk to safety.

(b) The master of each vessel shall ensure that each offshore worker boarding the vessel on a voyage after the initial public announcement has been made, as required by paragraph (a) of this section, also hears the information in paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 131.330 Emergency instructions.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, the master of each vessel shall prepare and post durable emergency-instruction placards in conspicuous locations accessible to the crew members and offshore workers.

(b) The instruction placards must contain the recommended "Emergency Instructions" listed in § 131.340 that, in the judgment of the cognizant OCMI,

46 CFR Ch. I (10–1–03 Edition)

apply. The placards must be further designed to address the equipment, arrangement, and operation peculiar to each vessel.

§ 131.340 Recommended placard for emergency instructions.

The following are the recommended format and content of the placard for emergency instructions:

EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS

(a) *Rough weather at sea, crossing of hazardous bars, or flooding.*

(1) Close each watertight and weathertight door, hatch, and air-port to prevent taking water aboard or further flooding in the vessel.

(2) Keep bilges dry to prevent loss of stability from water in bilges. Use power-driven bilge pump, hand pump, and buckets to dewater.

(3) Align fire pumps to serve as bilge pumps if possible.

(4) Check, for leakage, each intake and discharge line that penetrates the hull.

(5) Offshore workers remain seated and evenly distributed.

(6) Offshore workers don immersion suits (if required aboard) or lifejackets if the going becomes very rough, if the vessel is about to cross a hazardous bar, if flooding begins, or when ordered to by the master.

(7) Never abandon the vessel unless actually forced to, or ordered to by the master.

(8) Prepare survival craft—life floats, (inflatable) rafts, (inflatable) buoyant apparatus, and boats—for launching.

(b) *"Man overboard"*.

(1) Throw a ring buoy into the water as close to the person overboard as possible.

(2) Post a lookout to keep the person overboard in sight.

(3) Launch the rescue boat and maneuver it to pick up the person overboard, or maneuver the vessel to pick up the person.

(4) Have a crew member put on an immersion suit or lifejacket, have a safety line made fast to the crew member, and have the crew member stand by to jump into the water to assist the person overboard if necessary.

(5) If the person overboard is not immediately located—